

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/328,669

Applicant(s)

KATAGIRI, YOSHITO

Examiner

Justin P Misleh

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the Amendment After Final (23 July 2004).
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1, 2, 4 - 9, 11 - 47, 49, and 50 (now renumbered 1, 2, 4 - 9, 10, 12, 11, 13 - 15, 20, 21, 18, 19, 22, 16, 17, 23 - 31, 33 - 35, 32, 36, 26, 37 - 40, 3, and 41 - 47, respectively).
3. ☐ The drawings filed on _____ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
- ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. The Examiner accepts the amendments to the specification, drawings, and the claims submitted in the Amendment After Final (23 July 2004) and will ENTER the Amendment After Final to place the application in condition for allowance.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. **Claims 1, 2, 4 – 9, 11 – 47, 49, and 50** (now renumbered 1, 2, 4 – 9, 10, 12, 11, 13 – 15, 20, 21, 18, 19, 22, 16, 17, 23 – 31, 33 – 35, 32, 36, 26, 37 – 40, 3, and 41 – 47, respectively) are allowed.

3. The following is an Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The closest prior art teaches of a first lens, a second lens, and a driving member to move each of the first and second lenses, and guiding means for guiding the first and second lenses moved by the driving member for use in a camera. The closest prior art also teaches the camera includes a photo-electric converting element to receive the subject image through the first and second lenses and convert the subject image into image data and a single image processor for outputting image data after a selected processing. The closest prior art teaches that the single image processor is used to provide an electronic zooming circuit wherein electronic zooming is performed on the image data on the basis of predetermined magnification factors wherein the predetermined magnification factors compensate for limitations in traditional optical zoom. In

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the closest prior art, the single image processor performs image processing on the basis of predetermined information.

For **Claim 1**, the closest prior art does not teach or suggest a camera with two, rather than one, image processors wherein after a first image processing on the image data, wherein the image data is provided by a photo-electric converting element, a second image processing is performed on the image data wherein the second imaging processing is performed on the basis of a ranging operation that measures the distance between the camera and the subject image while the second lens is in one of a plurality of predetermined positions.

For **Claims 27 and 32**, the closest prior art does not teach or suggest a camera with a discriminator for discriminating whether the second lens is moved to a first region or a second region of the guiding means, wherein image processing outputs a first image data based on the image signal if the second lens is moved to a first region and a second image data if the second lens is moved to a second region.

For **Claims 38 and 39**, the closest prior art does not teach or suggest of a camera that includes a calculator to calculate an image magnification factor, which varies between before and after a focus adjustment, from a ranging signal of said ranging means, and variable power information designating a selected variable power region of said zoom lens.

For **Claims 40 and 41**, the closest prior art does not teach or suggest a camera with a discriminator for discriminating whether the second lens is moved to a first region or a second region of the guiding means, wherein image processing outputs a first image data based on the image signal if the second lens is moved to a first region and a second image data if the second lens is moved to a second region.

For **Claim 43**, the closest prior art teaches as described above, however, the closest prior art does not teach or fairly suggest wherein an image processing section outputs image signals without applying said image processing when said discriminator determines that said second lens is located a first position, while said image processing section outputs processed image signals acquired by applying image processing when said discriminator determines that said second lens is located at a second position.

Conclusion

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

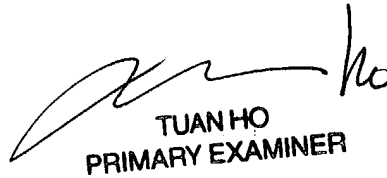
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Justin P Misleh whose telephone number is 703.305.8090. The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday from 7:30 AM to 5:30 PM and on alternating Fridays from 7:30 AM to 4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Wendy R Garber can be reached on 703.305.4929. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703.872.9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

JPM
August 11, 2004



TUAN HO
PRIMARY EXAMINER